

Spirax Sarco helps Bandvulc Tyres save £10,000 on its energy costs

Case Study

Bandvulc Tyres reduced their energy bill by 8%, (around £10,000), by fitting a Spirax Sarco system, which uses flash steam from the returning condensate to preheat the feed to the boiler.

Based in Ivybridge, Devon, Bandvulc Tyres use steam to cure commercial vehicle tyres. Before the Spirax Sarco system was fitted, Bandvulc was using energy from the returning condensate to maintain the water in the boiler feed tank at 95°C.

However, heating the feed water any further would have caused cavitation problems at the inlet to the feed pump. There was also a considerable amount of flash steam, which was generating excessive waste from the boiler feed tank.

In order to eliminate the emission, the company was forced to cool the condensate before it reached the tank, but this caused more wastage of the available heat energy and increased electricity consumption.

Spirax Sarco helped Bandvulc to engineer an effective solution to the problem.

A skid-mounted heat recovery system was introduced between the boiler feed pump and the boiler itself. Several modifications were made to the existing steam system including improved modulation and new level probes.

"The system is working pretty much exactly as Spirax Sarco said it would," says Bandvulc director Richard O'Connell. "It's saving us around 8%, just as predicted."

The Spirax Sarco project helped Bandvulc win the Devon Environmental Business Initiative (DEBI) Environmental Awards in 2007.

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